STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on July 18, 2007. During the interview, the Examiner and Applicant's representative discussed at length the limitation "a plurality of relatively small images" as recited in claims 1, 5, 7, and 9, the remaining rejected independent claims. In particular, Applicant's representative submitted that the feature "a plurality of small images" as claimed corresponds to second image data, and that there is no teaching or disclosure in Otsuki of a plurality of small images.

The Examiner maintained that the phrase "printing an image" in line 1 of claims 1 and 9 contradicts with the feature of printing "a plurality of relatively small images" as recited in the body of the claims. The Examiner thus suggested that line 1 of claims 1 and 9 be amended to recite "A printing method for printing images by printing dots", and that claims 5 and 7 be amended in a similar manner.